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## **Governor Musgrove Discusses Security Issues with Tom Ridge During Washington Visit**

Washington, DC – Governor Ronnie Musgrove met with Director of Homeland Security Tom Ridge in Washington Wednesday afternoon to discuss security issues facing the states. Musgrove was part of a group of governors meeting with Ridge in a closed-door session.

“During our meeting, I told Governor Ridge that Mississippi has responded to every request from the Office of Homeland Security,” Musgrove said. “Our Mississippi National Guard and other state emergency and law enforcement agencies like the Department of Public Safety and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency have been working hard since September 11 to ensure the safety and security of all Mississippians.”

Ridge also discussed the need for a national strategy in the meeting.

“It is important for the states to have input in the shaping of any national strategy, and we stressed that point with Governor Ridge,” said Musgrove.

Musgrove is in Washington for a meeting of the National Governors Association Executive Committee. He is scheduled to leave this afternoon from Andrews Air Force Base for a mission to Bosnia, where he will visit with Mississippi National Guard troops participating in peace-keeping missions.